

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. BA-975

Magi No. 0309755304

DOE ☒ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic SHIPLEY-KEMP HOUSE

and/or common OAKLAND

2. Location

street & number 13023 Beaver Dam Road ☐ not for publicationcity, town Texas vicinity ☒ vicinity of congressional district 2nd

state Maryland county Baltimore Co.

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. Charles T. Kemp et al

street & number 4340 Mt. Carmel Road telephone no.: 374-4216

city, town Upperco state and zip code MD 21155

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Courts Building liber 5614

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue folio 211

city, town Towson state MD 21204

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust Inventory

date On-going since 1965 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state MD 21401

7. Description

Survey No. BA-975

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SUMMARY

The Shipley-Kemp House is a large complex structure in stone and stucco, built up from a two-bay-wide Federal core that existed by at least 1823. The older portion of the house has lost its door and former front porch and now appears to be a mere appendage of a 20th century three-bay house in Federal style. The house retains its original simplified Federal lines in one exposed end wall. The house grounds also contain a barn and a one-story outbuilding of unknown purpose. This is a separate cluster from the mill and miller's cottage cluster 500 feet away.

The Shipley-Kemp house is a complex dwelling built in various phases after 1798, probably started before 1823. The house faces away from Beaver Dam Road. The oldest part is a two-bay-wide stone-and-stucco house that had a full-width porch with Victorian embellishments in the photos of ca. 1900. (1) That porch is now gone, the former door shows its simplified Federal form, being two bays deep, two stories, and equipped with a centrally located inside end-chimney. A plat of 1914 shows this house was L-shaped and an advertisement of 1904 claimed it contained ten rooms, so the present back building probably existed then. (2) The back building has an irregular plan, a roof part gabled and part cat-slide, and a shed-roofed one-story side porch. The back building includes two shed dormers to light the attic and has a broad inside end-chimney. Still another appendage is a 1½ story gable roofed garage wing, the easternmost extension of the house.

The largest part of the house is the 20th century addition that became the main facade. The main block is a three-bay, two-story, gable-roofed stucco-covered Federal style house. There is a one-story porch across the three bays. A brick outside end-chimney rises on the north-east end. Roofing is of slate. Most windows are 6-over-6 double-hung sash types. Floor layout in the main block is a side-hall plan. The main block projects slightly from the old two-bay starter house.

Dimensions given in the 1918 tax ledger were as follows:

Dwelling (3)	24 x 19	
(2)	23 x 17	
(1½)	16 x 24.	(3)

8. Significance

Survey No. BA-975

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☒ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SUMMARY

The Shipley-Kemp House is a large stone and stucco house largely built in this century but attached to an early 19th century farm dwelling constructed in the vernacular stone and stucco building technique of that period. The old part certainly belonged to the socially prominent James P. Boyd (son-in-law of Secretary of War McHenry) and later to ironmaster and Revolutionary patriot Charles Jessop. The house, however small, was the main dwelling of a mill property. It enjoyed a long association with the prominent and versatile Shipley family. Then in 1914, Henry Bishop, a Baltimore City supplier of canary birds, bird seed, and pet supplies, opened his "goldfish ranch" that drew motorists in droves each Sunday during the 1920's and 1930's. The house was the owner's mansion for all these activities and is still the principal residence on what is at the time of writing still a working farm.

The Shipley-Kemp House, or Oakland, has been considerably expanded in the early 20th century from the small two-bay-wide stone dwelling shown in Linwood Parks Shipley's family memoir. The basic house is the present southwest corner. The house had a primitive "colonial" kitchen and hearth as Mr. Shipley recalled, but the structure seems to be younger than the cluster of buildings found on the 1798 tax list. (1) The dwellings belonging to James Edwards on that tax list were merely log cabins (worth \$40), although the mill (within sight of Oakland) was of stone, a substantial 30 by 36 feet and the distillery, also of stone, measured 27 by 30 feet. (2) The mill was then only seven years old as revealed by its datestone, still intact. (3)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. BA-975

Linwood Parks Shipley, We Shipleys (Summit, New Jersey, 1980).
Privately printed.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 142.7Quadrangle name CockeysvilleQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting				Northing				

B

Zone	Easting				Northing				

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Tax Map 51, Parcel P7

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	N/A	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title John W. McGrainorganization Office of Planning & Zoning date May 15, 1986street & number Towson, MD 21204 telephone 494-3521city or town Towson state MD 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

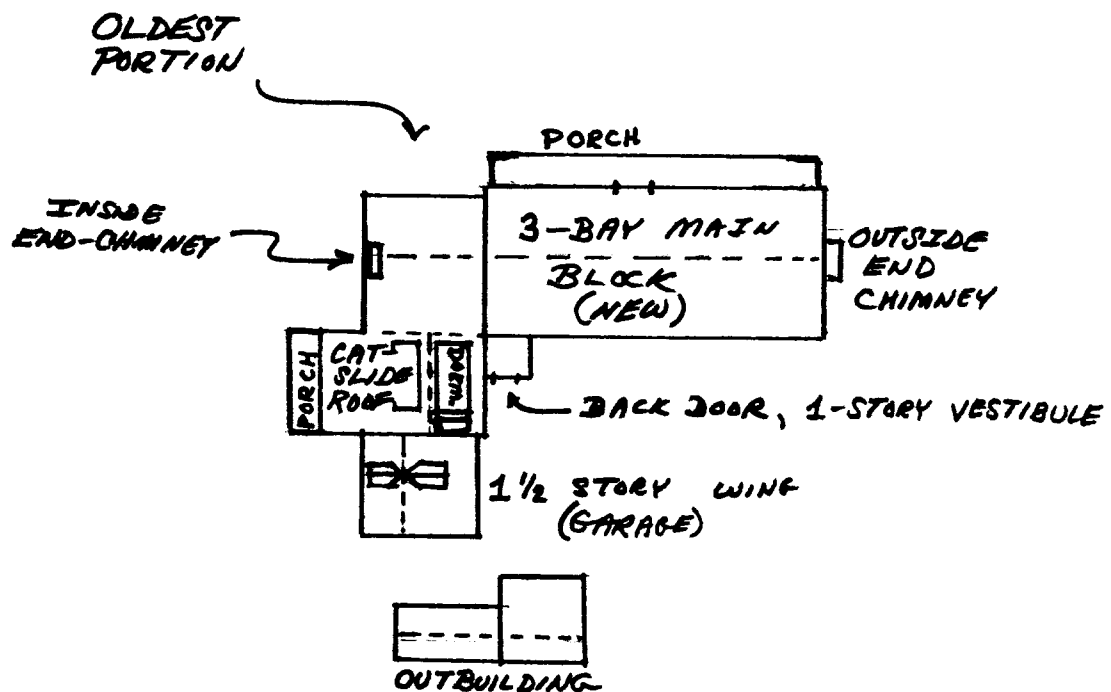
The owner's mansion is 500 feet southeasterly of the Shipley Hall and its miller's cottage (BA 976 and BA 2307).

Some of the old rough-cast stucco has been repaired with mismatching applications of portland cement and the repairs appear to be incomplete.

Outbuildings contain a small one-story structure with German siding wall covering set on a foundation of part brick, part cinder-block. A large plain, rectangular, gable-roofed barn with stone foundation and weathered vertical board wall covering stands 200 feet east of the house.

NOTES:

1. L.P. Shipley, We Shipleys (Summit, N.J., 1980), p. 55.
2. B.C. Plats, WPC 4:122; Judicial Records, WPC 204:282.
3. Tax Ledger, District 8, 1918, f. 24.



The assessor also listed an "old barn and stables with other old houses fit for fuel," in 1798.

James Edwards, Gentleman, had purchased the property in January 1790, parts of the original 1720 survey called "John and Thomas Forrest." That vast tract can be easily plotted onto present maps because its upper corner is still located in Oregon Ridge Park. (4)

This land descended through a number of persons: James Edwards sold to James P. Boyd, Gentleman, in 1804. (5) Boyd was a socially prominent and well connected city resident, married to Ann McHenry, daughter of James McHenry, Secretary of War under both Washington and John Adams. (6)

Boyd was probably not a practical miller. In 1811, he bought another large tract to the southward, the parcel now called "Connemara" (BA 640) bringing his holdings to 1,050 acres. (7) Boyd was certified insane in 1818 and in 1821, his trustees advertised some of his properties, stating that Adam Doughaday "residing at the Beaver Dam Mill" was ready to show the property. (8)

Thomas Long bought the mill property about 1821 and the 1823 tax list showed that the Long grist and saw mill were worth \$300, the other improvements worth \$250, probably allowing for the existence of the stone dwelling. (9)

Long's trustees advertised the property in the American in 1825, offering a two-story stone dwelling, lime kiln, and quarry near the stream called "the Beaver Dams." There was also the mill, miller's house, and distillery. (10) The trustees sold to Judge Alexander Nesbit, founder of the Baltimore branch of the Saint Andrew's Society, in 1827. (11) After three days of possession, Nesbit sold to Charles Jessop. (12)

Jessop was a distinguished figure: an ironmaster, farmer, miller, road contractor, Revolutionary veteran and amateur wrestler, early convert to Methodism, and donor of the ground for Jessop's Church (BA 93). His main house was Vaux Hall near present Paper Mill Road where he owned the Vaux Hall Mill. Jessop used the blank spaces in his account books for his semi-literate diary entries, where in May 1827, it is recorded that he was going to buy "Boyd's Mill or Beaver Dam Mill." (13)

Jessop left the mill to his son-in-law, Levi Merryman, who was residing there at the time of Sidney's 1850 map. Merryman's neighbor to the west was John Franklin Shipley, who in April (13) 1859 bought the mill property at auction for \$15,000, acquiring 150 acres. In August 1859, Shipley sold all but two acres and the mill to his son, Vincent T. Shipley. (14)

"The Shipleys of Maryland" are an organized, genealogically-conscious family, descended from Adam Shipley who came to this State in 1668. Much genealogical matter has been published and the Beaver Dam Road properties are written up in Linwood Parks Shipley's personal family book of 1980. The Shipleys called the place Oakland, and as Mr. Shipley described it:

The house on Oakland is truly a beautiful old place; probably at least part of the house was built in the 1700's. It faces west towards the range of hills which bound Limestone Valley in that direction. Along the base of these hills run the Beaverdam and Baisman Creeks or "branches" as they are called, and the house is set on a bluff overlooking the beautiful meadow through which the two streams meander. It was always a treasured family memory to sit on the front porch of a summer evening looking out over the meadow to the wooded hills opposite. Before the blight they were covered with Chestnut trees, and the range is still called "Chestnut Ridge."

Two photographs of Oakland are shown; one, probably much as it was when John Shipley bought the farm; the other, a recent photograph as it is today, beautifully restored. The older picture is shown in "Shipleys of Maryland - 1968" as the "birthplace of John Franklin Shipley." This is not correct and it is questionable whether John Franklin ever even lived in the house. The first member of the family to live there was Harry Vincent, grandson of John, and my father's father. He took over Oakland from his father Vincent Talbott soon after he was married in 1883 and all of his children were born there.

Oakland remained in the family until my grandfather Harry Vincent Shipley sold it in 1914 to Henry Bishop. The latter distinguished himself by turning the beautiful meadow into a wilderness morass of ponds to raise goldfish which was his business. The old home finally came into its own when it was purchased by Mrs. Betty Merryman Kemp. A branch of the Merryman family had been owners of this land even before John Franklin. (15)

In some mortgage proceedings of 1904, Oakland was advertised as "a substantial stonehouse of ten rooms, a barn, and wagon shed ... orchard ...occupied by Harry V. Shipley." (16)

Mrs. Evelyn Bishop Fisher in 1983 recalled that Oakland had no bathrooms in 1914 but there was a pump house to raise water. Mrs. Fisher's memoirs of her father's "goldfish ranch" are included in the Shipley Mill description form. (17)

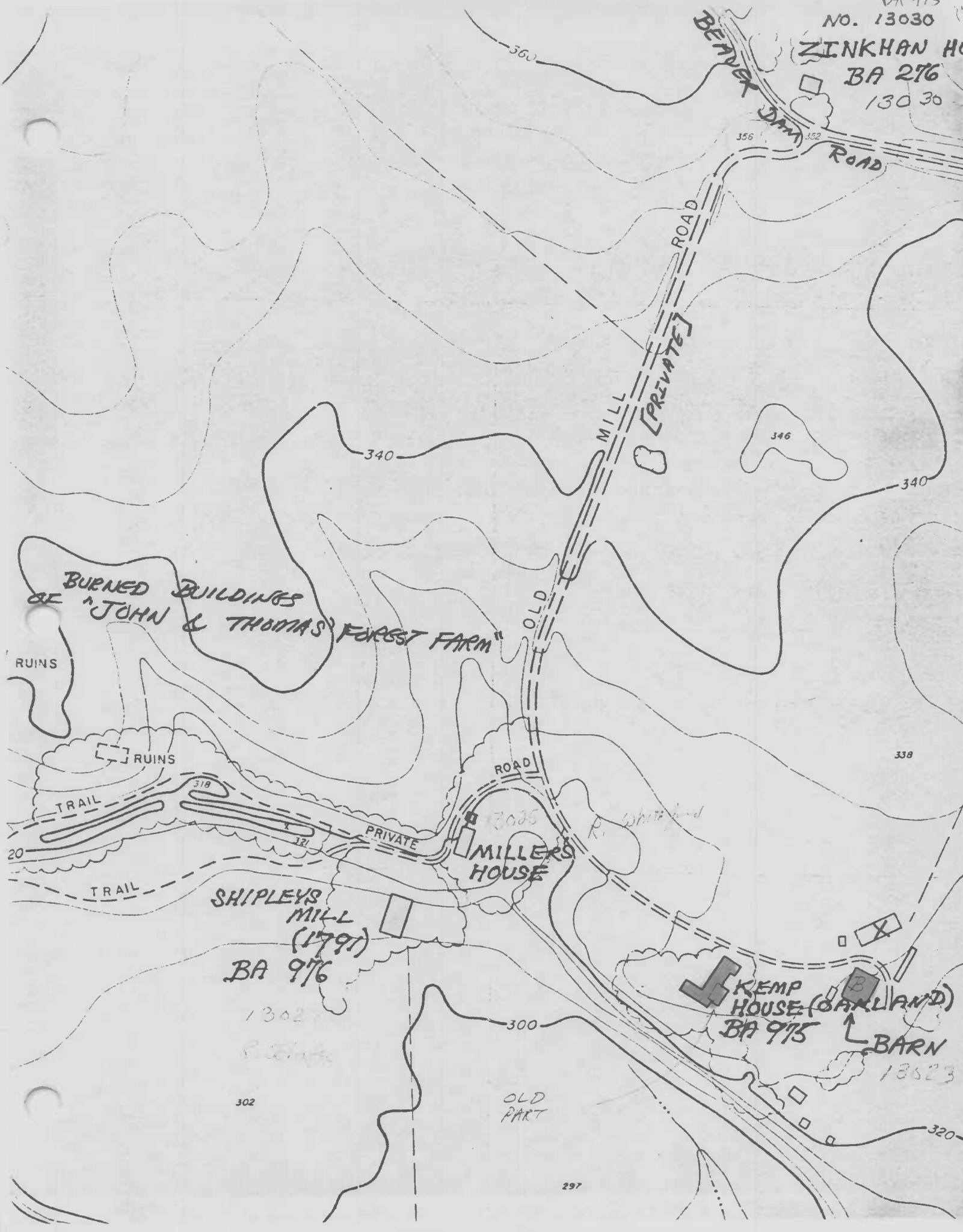
The Bishop family's restoration contractor, Charles T. Kemp, acquired the property following a lawsuit in 1941. (18) The house had apparently been L-shaped as far back as 1914 when a sales plat was filed in the Circuit Court, but it was further expanded by Mr. Kemp, who added to the expansions made by the Bishop family. (19) Mrs. Betsy Kemp continued to live alone in the large house into the late 1970's.

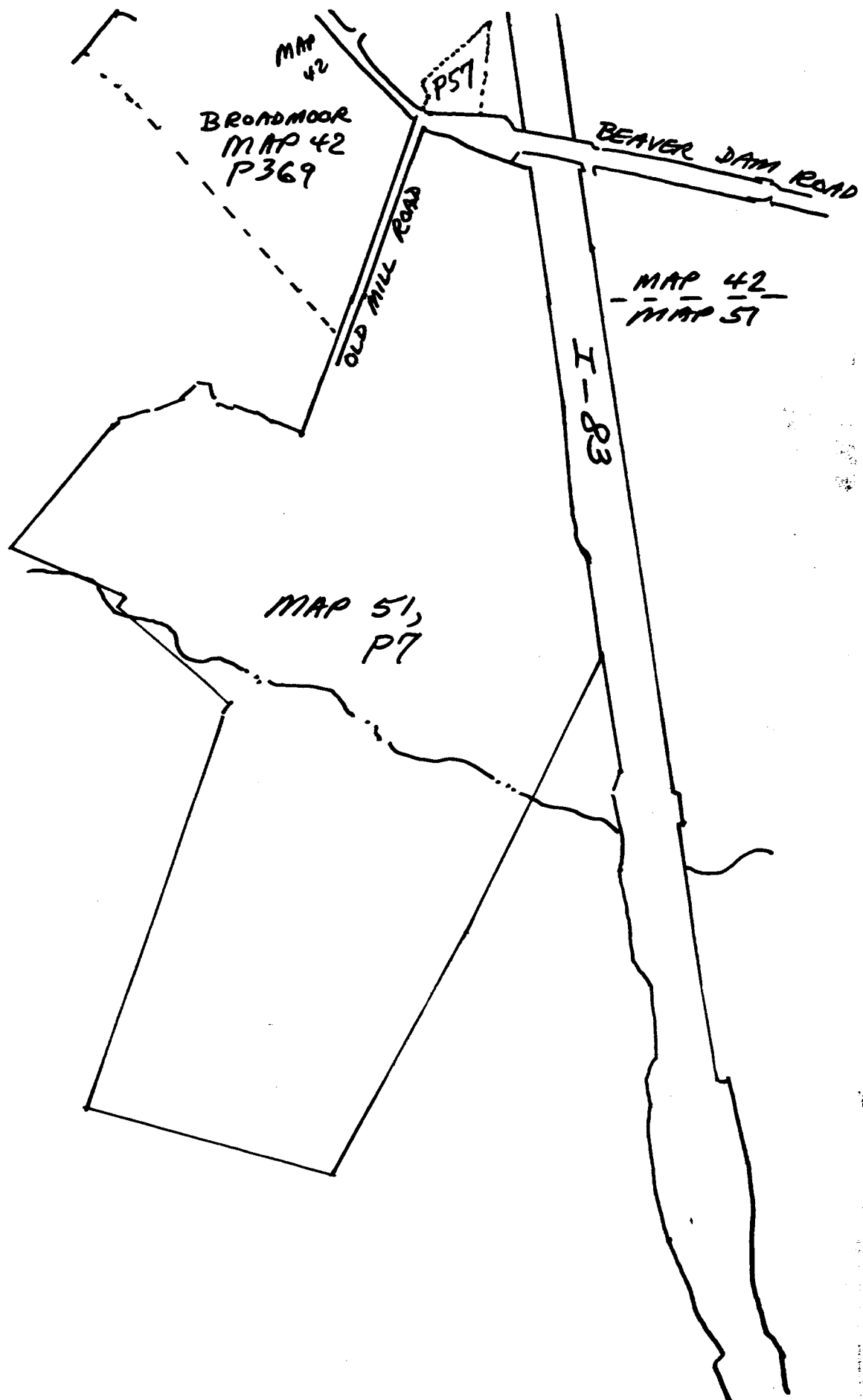
When the property was advertised in the Jeffersonian in 1981 it was noted, "Could be divided up by buyer into a Residential Development." (20) In the spring of 1986, the house had enjoyed some cosmetic repairs and the fields were under lease to a farmer who was plowing for corn in May when the property was surveyed for this report.

NOTES:

1. Linwood Parks Shipley, We Shipleys (Summit, N.J., 1980), p. 55.
2. Federal Direct Assessment, Back River Upper Hundred, 1798, Entry No. 1145. Microfilm owned by OPZ.
3. Date stone observed May 15, 1986.
4. Baltimore County Deeds, W.G., No. EE, f. 336. (Hall of Records, Annapolis).
5. Baltimore City Deeds, WG 78:36.
6. Baltimore Federal Gazette, February 5, 1808.
7. Baltimore City Deeds, WG 114:567.
8. Baltimore American, July 2, 1821.
9. Baltimore City Deeds, WG _____. Tax List, Old District 2, (1823), n.p. (Hall of Records).
10. Baltimore American, May 16, 1825.
11. Baltimore City Deeds, WG 186:402.
12. Baltimore City Deeds, WG 186:406.
13. Charles Jessop, "Prose From a Farm Ledger," History Trails, 11 (Autumn, 1976): 2.
14. Baltimore County Deeds, GHC 25:236.
15. Shipley, We Shipleys, pp. 32-33.
16. B.C. Judicial Records, WPC 204:282.
17. Evelyn Bishop Fisher, interview with John McGrain, County Courts Building, October, 1983.
18. B.C. Deeds, CWB JR. 1150:453.
19. B.C. Plat Book, WPC 4:122.
20. Jeffersonian, September 24, 1981.

BA 975
NO. 13030
ZINKHAN HC
BA 276
13030







SHIPLEY-KEMP HOUSE (OAKLAND)
BA 975
U.S.G.S. 7.5 MINUTE QUAD
COCKEYSVILLE, MD





SHIPLEY KEMP HOUSE BA 975
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, May 1986
Neg. located at OPZ, Towson
Main or SW facade



SHIPLEY-KEMP HOUSE BA 975
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, May 1986
Neg. located at OPZ, Towson
SE end from SE



SHIPLEY-KEMP HOUSE BA 975
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, May 1986
Neg. located at OPZ, Towson
Rear view from NE



SHIPLEY-KEMP HOUSE BA 975
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, May, 1986
Neg. located at OPZ, Towson
Small outbuilding



SHIPLEY-KEMP HOUSE: BARN BA 975
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, May 1986
Neg. located at OPZ, Towson
West side from west